WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

5

5

5

1. A compound of formula (I)

$$H_2N$$
 OH
 OH
 (I) ,

or a therapeutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkylsulfanylalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, (cycloalkyl)alkyl, (heterocycle)alkyl, and hydroxyalkyl; and

R² is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, alkenyl, alkyl, alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, (cycloalkyl)alkyl, heterocycle, and (heterocycle)alkyl.

- 2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R² is hydrogen.
- 3. The compound of claim 2 wherein R¹ is alkylsulfanylalkyl.
- 4. The compound of claim 3 selected from the group consisting of (2RS,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(methylsulfanyl)pentanoic acid; (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoic acid; (2RS,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(isopropylsulfanyl)pentanoic acid; and (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(*tert*-butylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoic acid.
- 5. The compound of claim 2 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, (cycloalkyl)alkyl, and hydroxyalkyl.
- 6. The compound of claim 5 selected from the group consisting of (2RS,3R)-3-amino-4-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxybutanoic acid; (2RS,3R)-3-amino-3-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxypropanoic acid; (2RS,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-phenylpentanoic acid; (2S,3R,4S)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-4-(3-hydroxypropyl)-7-methyloctanoic acid; and (2S,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-6-phenylhexanoic acid.
- 7. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is arylalkyl.
- 8. The compound of claim 7 wherein R¹ is alkylsulfanylalkyl.

- 9. The compound of claim 8 selected from the group consisting of (2S)-2-(methylamino)-2-(1-naphthyl)ethyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate; (2R)-2-(methylamino)-2-(1-naphthyl)ethyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate;
- $2\hbox{-}(\mathsf{methylamino})\hbox{-}2\hbox{-}(1\hbox{-}\mathsf{naphthyl})\mathsf{propyl}\ (3R)\hbox{-}3\hbox{-}\mathsf{amino}\hbox{-}5\hbox{-}(\mathsf{ethylsulfanyl})\hbox{-}2\hbox{-}\mathsf{hydroxypentanoate}; \\ \mathsf{and} \\$

benzyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate.

5

10

- 10. The compound of claim 7 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of arylalkyl, cycloalkyl, and (cycloalkyl)alkyl.
- 11. The compound of claim 10 selected from the group consisting of benzyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-3-cyclopentyl-2-hydroxypropanoate; benzyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-3-cycloheptyl-2-hydroxypropanoate; (2R)-2-(methylamino)-2-(1-naphthyl)ethyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-4-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxybutanoate; and
- 5 hydroxybutanoate; and (2*R*)-2-(methylamino)-2-(1-naphthyl)ethyl (2*S*,3*R*)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-phenylpentanoate.
 - 12. The compound of claim 1 wherein R^2 is alkyl.
- 13. The compound of claim 12 selected from the group consisting of methyl (3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(methylsulfanyl)pentanoate; methyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-4-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxybutanoate; methyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate; butyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate; isopropyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(isopropylsulfanyl)pentanoate; isopropyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate; sec-butyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate; and sec-butyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(isopropylsulfanyl)pentanoate.
 - 14. The compound of claim 1 wherein R² is selected from the group consisting of alkylcarbonyloxyalkyl, aryl, heterocycle, and (heterocycle)alkyl.
 - 15. The compound of claim 14 selected from the group consisting of

- (1S,2R)-2-amino-2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-1-yl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-4-cyclohexyl-2-hydroxybutanoate;
- [(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)oxy]methyl (2RS,3R)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-
- 5 hydroxypentanoate;
 - (1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-isoindol-2-yl)methyl (2*RS*,3*R*)-3-amino-5-(ethylsulfanyl)-2-hydroxypentanoate;
 - [(2,2-dimethylpropanoyl)oxy]methyl (2S,3R)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(isopropylsulfanyl)pentanoate;
- 10 (1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-isoindol-2-yl)methyl (2*S*,3*R*)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(isopropylsulfanyl)pentanoate; and 3-oxo-1,3-dihydro-2-benzofuran-1-yl (2*S*,3*R*)-3-amino-2-hydroxy-5-(isopropylsulfanyl)pentanoate.
 - 16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 or a therapeutically acceptable salt thereof, in combination with a therapeutically acceptable carrier.
 - 17. A method of inhibiting angiogenesis in a mammal in recognized need of such treatment comprising administering to the mammal a pharmaceutically acceptable amount of a compound of claim 1.
 - 18. A method for treating cancer in a patient in recognized need of such treatment comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically acceptable amount of a compound of claim 1, or a therapeutically acceptable salt thereof.